

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A dual use block/stream cipher is provided with a first key section and a data section. The first key section is to be initialized with a first cipher key, and to successively transform the first cipher key or a modified version of the first cipher key. The data section, coupled to the first key section, is to be initialized with either a block of plain text or a random number, and to successively and dependently, on the first key section, transform the plain text/random number. The cipher is further provided with a second key section and a mapping function. The second key section, coupled to the first key section, is selectively enableable to modify the first cipher key. The mapping section, coupled to the first key section, is to generate a pseudo random bit sequence when the second key section is selectably enabled to modify the stored first cipher key.

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